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THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Letter dated 28 June 1996 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 50/88 of 19 December 1995, by which the Assembly, inter alia, reaffirmed the mandate of the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan.

As you are aware, the Head of the Special Mission, Mr. Mahmoud Mestiri (Tunisia), informed me some weeks ago that he was obliged to resign his post for health reasons. I accepted his resignation with regret and paid tribute to the services he had rendered to the United Nations and to the people of Afghanistan in arduous circumstances.

Following the necessary consultations, I have decided to appoint Mr. Norbert Heinrich Holl (Germany), currently the Director for South Asia of the Federal Foreign Office of Germany, to succeed Mr. Mestiri as Head of the Special Mission. Mr. Holl will assume his functions in mid-July and will be based in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, pending the return of the Special Mission to Kabul.

I should be grateful if you would bring this information to the attention of the members of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI

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